



CONFERENCIA DE GOBERNADORES FRONTERIZOS
BORDER GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

MÉXICO - ESTADOS UNIDOS

MINUTES OF AGREEMENTS FOR THE IV MEETING OF THE EMERGENCIES AND CIVIL PROTECTION SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE BORDER GOVERNORS CONFERENCE, HELD IN MONTERREY, NUEVO LEON, MEXICO ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2008.

At the 9:00 a.m. February 1, 2007, meeting at the Horno 3 meeting room of Fundidora Park, in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, representatives of the Civil Protection and Emergency Management Units of the Border Governments of Mexico and the United States, as well as representatives of their respective Federal Governments, whose relationship is described herein, held the IV Workgroup meeting for the Subcommittee on Emergencies and Civil Protection, under the framework of the XXVI Border Governors Conference.

The session proceeded pursuant to the following Agenda:

1. Participant Registration.
2. Welcome and Introduction.
3. Agreements of the III Workgroup Meeting of Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, México.
4. Review of Action Items.
5. Presentation of the "Tabasco Case" by Lic. Laura Gurza Jaidar, General Coordinator for Civil Protection of the Secretaría de Gobernación
6. Presentation of the "Mexico Pandemic Flu" Program by Dr. Jessica Chaparro González, Assistant Director of Preparedness for Emerging and Reemerging Diseases at the Ministry of Health
7. Definition of the 2008 Program
8. Presentation by United States Federal Agencies.
 - a. *"Emergency Management Institute"* by: Victoria Turley and Richard G. Sexton
 - b. Presentation of "Border 2012" program progress by Barbara Maco, EPA Region IX Border Coordinator
9. Reading of the Agreements

1. PARTICIPANTS

MEXICO

For the Federal Government:

Laura Gurza Jaidar. Civil Protection General Coordinator. SEGOB.

Ana Lucia Hill Mayoral. Civil Protection General Director. SEGOB.

Lluvia Yuen Cervantes del Toro. Border Liaison for the General Direction of Civil Protection. SEGOB.

Jessica Chaparro González. Assistant Director for Preparing a Response to Emerging and Reemerging Diseases for the Ministry of Health.

For the States:

Baja California.

Alfredo Escobedo Ortiz.

Coahuila.

Segismundo Doguin Martínez.

Nuevo León.

Jorge Camacho Rincón



CONFERENCIA DE GOBERNADORES FRONTERIZOS
BORDER GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

MÉXICO - ESTADOS UNIDOS

Tamaulipas.
Sonora.

Medardo Sánchez Albarrán
Willebaldo Alatraste Candiani.

USA

Federal Government:

Carole L. Cameron (FEMA)
Nora E. Pinzon (USAID)
Bárbara Maco (EPA Border 2012)
Clair Blong (FEMA)
Victoria Turley (EMI)
William Peterson (FEMA).
Pedro Soto (USAID)

Rodger D. Garner (USAID)
Malcom Jonhson (US NORTHCOM)
Edward Maldonado (US NORTHCOM)
Nancy Ward (FEMA)
Richard Sexton (EMI)
Candice Abinati (FEMA)

States:

Arizona Louis B. Trammell
California Scout Frizie, Steve Sellers and Helen López
Nuevo México Larry L. Austin y Lorenzo Espinoza

Guests:

Louis Chaboya USEPA Contractor, Consultant to the Co-Chair

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Commander Jorge Camacho Rincón, State Director for Civil Protection of Nuevo Leon, welcomed the attendees and suggested self-introductions take place, stating name, position and agency represented.

He subsequently ceded the floor to Louis B. Trammell, to discuss background as well as meeting goals. Similarly, Willebaldo Alatraste Candiani, introduced: Alfredo Escobedo and Segismundo Doguin, new directors for Baja California and Coahila, respectively, as new workgroup members.

Finally, Rodrigo Medina de la Cruz, Secretary General of the State Government of Nuevo Leon, representing the Governor of the State, Lic. Natividad González Parás, gave the official address and proceeded to formally inaugurate the proceedings of the meeting.

3. AGREEMENTS OF THE PUERTO PENASCO MEETING

Lou Trammell read the agreements reached at the IV Work Group Meeting for the Subworkgoup at the city of Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, specifying that the most important issue is to provide timely follow-up up to the Action Items to be completed during 2008 as the XXVI Border Governors Conference to be held in California the month of August approaches.



4. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEM No. 1.- To train first responders in the border region in pandemic flu issues in coordination with the Health Committee.

Agreements:

- The States of Coahuila and California shall continue as coordinators for this action item.
- The States will be asked for the training Schedule prior to **March 1, 2008** and shall send it to the subworkgroup coordinators to be distributed among all members and placed on the Civil Protection and Emergencies subworkgroup webpage.
- **To present at the next meeting** the training program entitled Pandemic Flu to be held throughout the border region in 2008. In Mexico, it shall be held in coordination with the Ministry of Health and the DGPC
- Dr. Jessica Chaparro of the Health Department **took on the commitment of working with the Mexican border states in the design and implementation of the training program** in the six border states for which direct contact shall be established with the State of Coahuila.

ACTION ITEM No. 2.- To develop a Strategic Binational Emergency Management Five-Year Plan, to include prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

Agreements:

- The States of Sonora and Arizona shall continue as coordinators for this action item.
- Lou Trammell shall send the draft of the Strategic Plan next week (February 4-8) for review by the workgroup members.
- Laura Gurza and Carol L. Cameron shall research whether or not funds are available from the Federal Governments of Mexico and the U.S. for a contractor to support the development of the action item. A report shall be submitted during the following meeting.
- Malcom Jonson shall coordinate the inter-institutional search project to identify obsolete equipment or equipment no longer in use due to insurance issues in the US, which might be used in the border region. A report shall be given at the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM No. 3.- To develop a Memorandum of Understanding for mutual aid in the case of emergency response in the ten border states.

Agreements:

- The States of Nuevo Leon and New Mexico shall continue as coordinators of this Action Item.
- Jorge Camacho will send before **February 8**, a draft of the MOU to be reviewed by the workgroup members. In turn members shall send no later than **February 15**, any observations or comments to Jorge Camacho, which once included, shall constitute the final version to be **approved at the next meeting** for the workgroup. Additionally, in order to be presented to the representatives of the Governors to reach an



agreement and be signed by the 10 Governors at the XXVI Border Governors Conference to be held in California during the month of August.

- Laura Gurza mentioned that the collaboration agreement with FEMA is currently being updated, as well as the trinational mutual aid agreement between Mexico, the U.S. and Canada. She indicated that the MOU shall serve as an example of what the federal governments are doing.

5. PRESENTATION OF THE "TABASCO CASE".

Laura Gurza Jaidar, General Coordinator for Civil Protection for the Secretaría de Gobernación of México presented to the members of the Emergency and Civil Protection Subcommittee the situation which arose weeks before in the States of Tabasco and Chiapas as a result of atypical rainfall occasioned by a regional cold front. She highlighted that the successful emergency management response was obtained mainly due to positive inter-institutional coordination between the three levels of government, as well as due to the solidarity and direct support of Mexicans.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE "PANDEMIC FLU IN MEXICO" CASE.

Dr. Jessica Chaparro González, Assistant Director of Preparedness Response to Emerging and Reemerging Diseases for the Ministry of Health, discussed what Mexico is doing to prepare to face Pandemic Flu. Several U.S. Federal officials congratulated her for clarity in discussing the issue as well as for the preparedness efforts completed to date.

7. DEFINITION OF THE 2008 WORK PLAN AND AGREEMENTS

Members of the work group agreed to follow up on the three established action items, and to have two meetings prior to the XXVI Border Governors Conference. One the first week of April in California, and a second during the first two weeks of June in Tamaulipas. Also, it was agreed to meet one day before the Conference Plenary meeting and that in the month of November the meeting shall be held in New Mexico.

The State of California suggested that the procedure be identified whereby this subworkgroup would be elevated to a workgroup with the same level and responsibilities as previously established. All the members supported the proposal and it was agreed that at the same time the Border Security committee be notified of the agreements of this working group, that each state notify the representative of the Governor of this proposal for the purpose of being submitted for consideration to the 10 Governors during the next Conference in California.

It was agreed to include in the agenda for the next meeting a discussion of the process whereby co-chairs for the workgroup are elected, so that change could be made in the August meeting in California.

8. PRESENTATION BY US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES



CONFERENCIA DE GOBERNADORES FRONTERIZOS
BORDER GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

MÉXICO - ESTADOS UNIDOS

Malcom Jonson, of U.S. NORTHERN Command, reiterated the great interest his organization has in continuing to work with the Emergency and Civil Protection Subcommittee, highlighting the progress which has been made thanks to this coordination. He also presented a personal protection suit currently in use and reported that 1,000 of them are available to donate to the Mexican Government for distribution through CGPC. He subsequently ceded the floor to his colleagues for their agreed upon presentations.

a. PRESENTATION OF THE "*EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE*".

The presentation of the Emergency Management Institute was made by Victoria Turley, Section Chief of the Institute, as well as by Richard G. Sexton, instructor at said Institute, who informed us that this Institute falls under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, located in Emmitsburg, Maryland, USA, whose mission is to provide exercise based training in the areas of preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation of emergency situations related to natural, technological or terrorist threat related disasters. Assurances were made that it is focused on executive-level officials in all areas related to emergency management. The point was also made that the training is designed based on case studies for specific communities.

It was mentioned that they currently have a project for the second semester in 2008 or design and implementation of a course directed to approximately 70 people who participate in emergency management in the two Nogales regions.

Willebaldo Alatraste proposed that this training may be designed to assist the 30 emergency coordinators for cities which currently have the Binational Response Plan pursuant to the Border 2012 Program. In response to this point, Victoria Turley indicated that in this case that was not possible, because the success of the courses is based on working with people who directly participate in the emergency management of a specific regional case. However, in response to the proposal, she indicated that people from other states could be invited as observers.

As follow up to this Project, Willebaldo Alatraste and Lou Trammell proposed Louis Chaboya contact EMI to define the details of the aforementioned course.

Commander Jorge Camacho, proposed that during a second stage, a course be structured for the region of the Colombia bridge which affects the status of Texas, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas. Additionally, he invited EMI officials to assess the possibility of having it in the same region instead of the Institute itself, for which Nuevo Leon would provide the necessary resources. An agreement was reached to discuss this.

b. PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE BORDER 2012 PROGRAM

Representing US EPA, Barbara Maco, USEPA Border Coordinator, discussed the Border 2012 Program and its activities, mentioning the progress made to date in the region worldwide.



CONFERENCIA DE GOBERNADORES FRONTERIZOS
BORDER GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

MÉXICO - ESTADOS UNIDOS

Additionally, it was reported that by way of an agreement between NORTHCOM and EPA , this year \$500,000 US currency has been approved to conduct training and leave behind equipment for Mexican Border Responders. EPA, as the technical lead has contacted the members of the subcommittee individually to present an overview of the project, answer any questions, and get recommendations to help define the high priority training and equipment needs. Currently we have targeted training for five Border Sister Cities. All training would be conducted by an established, certified contractor and/or Training Institute in Mexico. All training for the initial five cities is scheduled to be completed by September 2008. If we are successful in obtaining similar funding in the future we would propose conducting similar training in the remaining Border Sister Cities.

At 17:30 on the same day, the IV meeting of the Subcommittee for Emergencies and Civil Protection for the Border Governors Conference was concluded.